

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~A method is disclosed for reducing~~ Reducing a standby period of time for printing;
~~in a case where two or more network printers and at least one host computer are~~
~~connected to a network. The method comprises the following steps. The first step is~~
includes: registering at least one item of network print information in ~~the~~ a host
computer. ~~The second step is;~~ detecting the network printer information registered in the
host computer if a command for printing has been selected. ~~The third step is;~~
transmitting a command for requesting the network printers to transmit information
concerning the amount of standby print operations using detected network printer
information. ~~The fourth step is valuating;~~ evaluating the received information
concerning the amount of the standby print operations ~~transmitted from the network~~
~~printers in response to the command for requesting the network printers to transmit~~
~~information concerning the amount of standby print operations. The fifth step is;~~
detecting a network printer having the least amount of standby print operations ~~among~~
~~network printers having standby print operations. The sixth step is~~ and transmitting print
data to the detected network printer. ~~A system for carrying out the steps is also disclosed.~~